(*b*) if not, why?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) and (*b*) The traffic on the road does not justify the construction of an overbridge or underground tunnel.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* The rail-road is a little diverging here. Buses and cars might meet with accidents by colliding with railway trains. Will the Government be pleased to shift the bus route from this road to the western Nadakkavu?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* It is an A class level-crossing and it is attended by the railway watchman and there are gates. There is no room for apprehension.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Has any accident come to the Government's notice?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* No.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Will the Government be pleased to consider the question of diverting the bus route?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* It is a matter for the Municipality to decide.

BRIDGES ON ERNAKULAM-PEPATHIPARA ROAD— WIDENING OF

64. Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the width of the two bridges near Thuruthikkara in the Ernakulam-Pepathipara road;

(*b*) whether the Government will be pleased to widen the bridges immediately?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) The bridges have a clear width of 10 ft. and 10 ft. 3 in. respectively.

(*b*) There is no immediate necessity to widen the bridges.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* What will be the width of 1 ton buses?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* 6 feet 8 inches.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Will the Government be pleased to note that the space left between the buses and the sides of the bridge will only be one foot?

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Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* That is the standard width for small roads. 10 feet is sufficient. I do not mean to say that it is sufficiently wide. We shall take up this question along with our programme of widening many other narrow bridges and culverts.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* May I ask the Government to give some special consideration to this?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I shall see to it.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Have Government noted that there is a sharp curve?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I have seen that.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* May I know the length of these bridges?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* 8 or 10 feet.

THANNIKKUDOM-MACHAD ROAD—CONSTRUCTION OF

65. Mr. K. R. Viswambaran *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether their attention has been drawn to the contents of an article under caption "Thannikkudom-Machad road" appearing in the "Progress" dated 19th October 1940 (page 6)

(*b*) if answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether any action has been taken in the matter;

(*c*) when was the proposal to connect Trichur with Machad first considered by the Government;

(*d*) what is the approximate estimate of expenditure for the proposed road;

(*e*) whether the Government is in a position to say that the work will be attended to in 1117?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) and (*b*) Yes; the Government intend to place the subject before the next Road Board.

(*c*) In 1106.

(*d*) Rs. 31,000.

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